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SOURCE Naroden Glas.CALLS SYNTHOMYCIN A GREAT VICTORY OF USSR MEDICINE

When the chemical formula of the antibiotic chloromycetin became known 2 years ago, a group of chemical engineers and medical men headed by Stalin Prize winner F. S. Khanenya decided to produce this antibiotic artificially. To do so, collective efforts of the entire group were necessary because of the very complex structure of the antibiotic. In only 3 months the laboratory prepared several grams of this antibiotic, and it was designated as synthomycin.

Clinical trials of synthomycin started under unusual circumstances. During the trials the laboratory assistant, Dr. Gugnayev, fell ill of dysentery. Convinced of the powers of synthomycin, he consented to be treated with it. The results amazed the doctors. 12 hours after the first treatment, Gugnayev began to feel normal, and within a few more hours he was completely free of dysentery bacilli.

Further tests confirmed the exceptional efficacy of the new treatment. One tiny dose of 1.5-5 grams of synthomycin in a cubic meter of water containing dysentery bacilli killed all of them.

As is well known, dysentery frequently attacks children. After the introduction of synthomycin in the Children's Clinical Hospital, mortality was reduced to zero. The doctors of 12 Moscow hospitals and the Leningrad Pediatric Institute all agree that dysentery will cease to be a fatal disease. The antibiotic has helped not only in the acute but also in the chronic form of bacillary dysentery and was also used with success in treating typhoid fever and typhus.

A huge amount of the product is needed. Production methods are being developed at the All-Union Chemicopharmaceutical Research Institute imeni S. Ordzhonikidze. Industrial production will begin in a few months under the Ministry of Public Health USSR. By the end of 1951 all USSR medical institutions will have this drug.

The following have received the Stalin Prize for their part in developing the new treatment: F. S. Khanenya, V. F. Gladkiy, I. E. Gugnayev, G. P. Peremin, and E. V. Prokhorovich.

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